

REMARKS

The applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the application and request reexamination and reconsideration of the application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

The applicants acknowledge and appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 21-34 are allowed.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-3, 7-10, 17-18, 20, 45-47, 49-51, 58, 59, 61, 64 and 65 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,044,401 to *Guiset*. The Examiner also rejects claims 1-3, 5-11, 17, 18, 20, 45-47, 49-52, 58-59, 61 and 64-66 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,682,555 to *Cioanta et al.* The Examiner further rejects claims 4, 48 and 62 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Guiset*.

Claims 61-62 and 67-97 were previously cancelled.

Claims 1-20 and 35-66 are currently cancelled.

Accordingly, the applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Each of the Examiner's rejections has been addressed or traversed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

If for any reason this Response is found to be incomplete, or if at any time it appears that a telephone conference with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the

undersigned or his associates, collect in Waltham, Massachusetts at (781) 890-5678.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Thompson, Jr.", written above a horizontal line.

Thomas E. Thompson, Jr.
Reg. No. 47,136